

## GERMANY OFFICIALLY ACCEPTS TERMS MADE BY U. S.—BIG WILSON VICTORY

Washington, Sept. 1.—Germany today officially accepted America's terms.

Ambassador Bernstorff, speaking for the German foreign office, informed the state department that henceforward the kaiser's submarine methods will conform to America's interpretation of international law.

There will be no more unwarned attacks on merchant ships, Germany stated. Vessels suspected of carrying contraband will be visited and searched before being destroyed. Their crews and passengers will be given every opportunity to escape.

"Liners will not be sunk by our submarines without warning and without safety of the lives of non-combatants, provided that the liners do not try to escape or offer resistance," was the written statement of Ambassador Bernstorff, conveying his instructions to the secretary of state today on the German answer to the latest Lusitania note.

In substance, the same assurances had been made to the state department informally several days ago. This relieves the tension but there was still much anxiety concerning the nature and conditions of the German concessions. It was feared they might be so qualified as to be unacceptable.

All such doubts were removed today. The full text of the ambassador's note to the secretary of state was as follows:

"My Dear Secretary.—With reference to our conversation of this morning, I beg to inform you that my instructions concerning our answer to your last Lusitania note contains the following passage: 'Liners will not be sunk by our submarines without warning and without safety to the lives of noncombatants, provided the liners do not try to escape or offer resistance.'

"Although I know you do not wish

to discuss the Lusitania question till the Arabic incident has been definitely and satisfactorily settled, I desire to inform you of the above because this policy of my government was decided on before the Arabic incident occurred.

"I have no objections to your making any use you may please of the above information.

"I remain, my dear Mr. Lansing, very sincerely yours—J. Bernstorff."

Commenting on the foregoing statement, Secretary of State Lansing would only say that in view of its clearness it seems needless to make any comment in regard to it, other than to say that it appeared to be a recognition of the fundamental principles for which we have contended.

Everything the United States asked, so far as the future was concerned, Germany has now granted.

The past was touched on only by inference.

The Lusitania and Arabic cases were not specifically mentioned. The only conclusion it was possible to draw from today's communication, however, was that German accepted responsibility—as, indeed, it has already done—for the Lusitania's destruction, that she would disavow the sinking of the Arabic, that the illegality of both attacks was admitted and that the fullest possible reparation would be made for the loss of American lives when the two vessels went down.

Past incidents were left for diplomatic settlement, but the tone of today's note, together with intimations previously received from Berlin, left no doubt that Germany would meet the United States more than half way concerning these matters and that a speedy and satisfactory adjustment would be reached.

Ambassador Bernstorff received the "memorandum," as it was referred